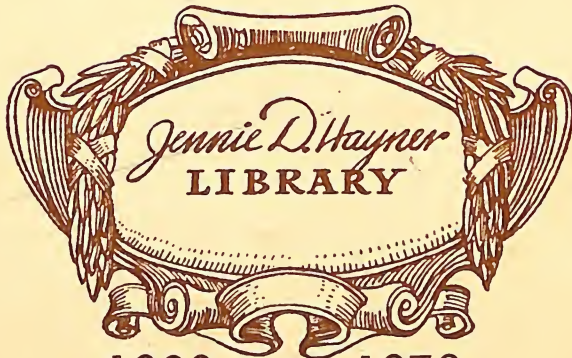


HISTORY

OF THE



1933 ★ 1973

ALTON

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HIS

ILLINOIS ROOM  
NOT FOR CIRCULATION

HAYNER PUBLIC LIBRARY DISTRICT-ALTON



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*Dedicated to Tilton Rodgers, Elizabeth McCuistion  
and Ruth Buxton with deep affection.*

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HAYNER PUBLIC LIBRARY DISTRICT  
ALTON, ILLINOIS

ILLINOIS ROOM  
NOT FOR CIRCULATION



## PART I

HISTORY OF THE JENNIE D. HAYNER LIBRARY ASSOCIATION  
1933-1973

During the decade of the 1930's the financial problems of the nation were reflected in the diminishing interest from the endowment fund received by the Jennie D. Hayner Library Association (hereinafter referred to as the Association). The Association found it difficult to live within its greatly reduced income. There were a number of years when it operated with a deficit- a deficit which was generously made up by Mrs. W. A. Haskell.

There was some minor help from the federal government. Through the National Youth Administration, a form of WPA for young people, the salaries of several young, parttime employees were paid.

In 1933 the Association was requested to establish a small library at Hillcrest House. Consequently, three hundred books were stamped, catalogued and loaned to them. Miss Elizabeth Venardos volunteered to be librarian there one afternoon and one evening a week.

In the 1930's the library received a number of generous gifts: \$50,000 from the estate of Mrs. W. A. Haskell; a first edition of the Gettysburg Address from a Dr. Allen of Fort Wayne, Indiana; a framed Elijah Lovejoy letter; \$10,000 from Miss Eunice Smith, to be known as the Alice E. Smith Memorial Fund, the interest from which was to be used to buy childrens books; \$3000 from Miss Helen Haskell as a memorial to her father, Dr. W. A. Haskell and her brother, John Abraham Haskell, the interest from which was to be spent to purchase books about doctors.

In 1939 the treasurer's books of the Association were audited for the first time. It is also interesting to note that in that year, as in years before, the library staff **requested** that it be rehired.

New members added to the Association in 1934 were Mrs. R. E. Wilkinson, Mrs. George Duncan, Mrs. R. H. Levis and Mrs. F. W. Olin. Mrs. J. A. Haskell resigned. Mrs. Paul Buxton and Mrs. Albert Duncan became members in 1936.

The 1940's brought new problems both financial and otherwise. Termites were found in the library building and the cost of exterminating them plus replacing the damaged areas was beyond the resources of the income of the Association. Contributions of over \$2000 from members and friends were raised and the exterminating and repairs were accomplished with some funds remaining. When, in 1934, it was found that a new slate roof was needed on the south and west portions of the building, the money remaining in the "termite fund" plus



funds donated by the members of the Association were used to replace the slate.

In 1940 a painting owned by the library and signed Riley Blair, 1840, was restored and a self portrait called "Reflections" by Agnes Richmond Turney, a native of Alton, was donated by the artist.

During the years of World War II, the library contributed books to both Victory Campaigns and it also housed Red Cross classes in the basement of the building. Because of fuel economy, the bus stop across from the library was eliminated. This was a real hardship to staff and patrons.

The overriding worry, however, was financial. Money which had to be reinvested could only be done at a much lower interest rate, reducing income. The money to maintain the library was derived solely from the interest of the endowment fund, a few small gifts, and \$600 or \$700 received each year in fines for overdue books. At this time, 1944, the endowment fund was \$167,000 from which the income was \$6811. Organizing a "Friends of the Library" group as a means of widening the base of support is mentioned for the first time in the minutes of 1944. This idea was later adopted by the Hayner Public Library Board in 1968.

It became urgent to find some other means of acquiring revenue. Mr. Emil Verlie and Mr. Gilson Brown, attorneys, were consulted about the legality of using tax monies to support the library. The city had been paying the light bill for some years and it was hoped that this might serve as a precedent. It was Mr. Verlie's and Mr. Brown's opinion that the consent of the Hayner-Haskell families would have to be obtained before there could be any change in the use of the building or its status.

In 1945 the Mayor of Alton, Mr. Earl Linkogle, and the City Attorney, Mr. Karl Hoagland, were prepared to present to the City Council a request for a 1.02 mill tax to support the library but before it could be considered a new mayor was elected and the proposal languished. In any event, the Association's attorney, Mr. Dana Eastman, advised that it would not be legal for the library to accept tax funds.

The members of the Association then decided to write a letter to the newspaper to acquaint the public with its problems. They also voted to write to the Hayner-Haskell heirs to ask for a release of the stipulations of Mr. Hayner's will.

As a result of the letter to the newspaper, the Association members met with representatives of The Council of Service Clubs at the latter's request. The Association agreed to accept the Council's offer of help in any way that would conform with the restrictions of its charter. The result of the meeting was the appointment of Mr. Francis D. Neumann as chairman of solicitation for The Council of Service Clubs Drive to help

the library. This drive netted \$3974.85, which was turned over to the Association in January of 1947.

By September of 1948 these funds, which were used to supplement other income, were nearly depleted. The Finance Committee estimated there was enough money to remain open just ten more months. Soon thereafter the Illinois Legislature passed a law which made restrictions such as those under which the Association had been operating void after fifty years. Therefore in 1949 the main part of the library was no longer bound by the terms of the will, and the east wing would remain bound for only five more years. But this did not solve the immediate problem. The library was closed for the summer months. It was only open for twenty hours a week in the winter of 1950.

Many conscientious and hard working new members were added to the Association in the 1940's; Mrs. Minor Watson; Mrs. William McGill, Mrs. William Akin, Mrs. Spencer Olin, Mrs. E. D. Munger, Mrs. Henry McAdams and Mrs. Robert Levis, II. There were also resignations reluctantly accepted from Mrs. John Duncan, Mrs. Albert Duncan, Mrs. Samuel Wade, Mrs. Minor Watson and Mrs. William McGill.

In the early 1950's the library's financial problems worsened. A boiler had to be replaced in 1950. The library was again closed in the summers of 1950, '51 and '52. During the winter and spring of 1952 the library was open three days a week.

That year Mrs. Jane Bassett resigned as librarian after many years of excellent and devoted service. Mrs. Beatrice Rippley, Miss Marion Vogelpohl and Mrs. Charlene Redd were hired as part-time librarians. It was decided to open the library that fall on a full time basis. When the funds were exhausted it would simply have to close.

In November, 1952, a release from the Haskell family heirs to the conditions of the gift of the library to the Jennie D. Hayner Library Association was received and on Thanksgiving Eve, a date the Association felt exceedingly appropriate, the city council accepted the gift of the library and its contents on the following terms: The library would retain its name; The Jennie D. Hayner Library Association would retain its endowment funds; The library building would always be used as a library; The city would levy a tax to support it; The city would appoint a board to administer it.

On February 25, 1953 the City Council of Alton passed an ordinance "to create and establish a public library and reading room and to authorize the mayor to appoint a board of directors for the same". Two members of the Jennie D. Hayner Library Association were appointed to the first board. They were Mrs. Paul Buxton, who served on the city board until her resignation in 1971 because of ill health, and Mrs. Henry McAdams. The value of this gift of building and books to the city was



conservatively estimated at \$311,000. The average cost to the taxpayer was expected to be about \$3 a year.

As a parting gift to the library the members of the Jennie D. Hayner Library Association presented the library with new lighting fixtures at a cost of about \$7000.

In January of 1954 the Association entered into a trust agreement with The First National Bank of Alton to manage its investments. The Association continued to dispense the funds. That year it voted to give the library \$4800 a year for the purchase of books. These books were to carry a book plate imprinted with the Association's name. For the next five years the only money available for the purchase of books for the library came from the endowment fund income.

In 1955 there was a revision of the by-laws. The new by-laws called for quarterly meetings, election of officers every two years, and stated that an officer could succeed herself only once in the same office.

1955 was a year of great loss to the Association. Miss Eunice Smith, who had been a staunch supporter, generous contributor, and hard working member of the Association, died. In recognition of her years of devotion, The Eunice C. Smith Living Memorial Fund was established. From contributions by the Association and Mrs. Pascal C. Hatch (the former Ellen S. Smith sister of Miss Eunice Smith), this fund eventually amounted to \$10,000. The Association proposed that the fund be used to present a cultural program for Alton citizens each year in her memory. Only the interest of the fund was to be used.

The first program of the Eunice C. Smith Living Memorial Fund was given in 1956 by Mr. Fred Draeher, art teacher at John Burroughs School in St. Louis, who gave a talk and showed movies on Mobiles. In May 1958, "Music Under The Stars", a program presented by the St. Louis Little Symphony, was given at West Junior High School's Amphitheater at a cost of \$1681. In 1959 The Alton Children's Theater performance of the Emperor's New Clothes was the memorial program.

Other programs presented by the Memorial Fund were "What Women Have Worn for Adornment Through the Ages" in 1961; "Laughter in an English Garden" by Beverly Nichols in 1963; "Arts of the Pacific Islands" with a talk by Dr. John A. Richardson, Chairman of the Department of Arts and Design at SIUE in 1965; The Alton Children's Theater production of *Pinocchio* in 1967 in honor of Miss Smith; "Media Probes" a series of programs at the library by Pauline Meyer in 1972.

During the years 1968-71, at a time when there was a great deal of discussion and planning by the Hayner Public Library Board for a new library building, the Jennie D's, as they were often called to distinguish them from the Hayner Public Library Board, voted to reinvest the interest from the Eunice C. Smith Living Memorial Fund in order to

contribute something substantial to the new library building in Miss Smith's memory.

In 1957 the regular contribution to the library for the purchase of books was increased to \$6000 with supplementary amounts given from time to time. In 1959 the Jennie D's also gave \$500 each to Alton Memorial and St. Joseph Hospital's Schools of Nursing to purchase books for their libraries. This gift was to be repeated for many years. In addition St. Anthony's Hospital School of Nursing was added in 1962.

In 1955 the library itself was the recipient of the book collection of Mr. William Hapgood as a memorial to Miss Bertha Ferguson, treasurer of the Jennie D. Hayner Library Association for many years and co-author with Mrs. Eben Rodgers of *The History of the Jennie D. Hayner Library 1853-1933*. The Association also voted a sum not to exceed \$500 for a memorial to Miss Ferguson.

Whenever the Association lost a member through resignation or death it was fortunate to be able to replace these members with equally dedicated new ones. In 1952 Mrs. Robert Anschuetz and Mrs. B. E. Spencer were added. Mrs. R. H. Levis resigned. In 1954 Mrs. Karl Hoagland and Mrs. Ralph Jackson became new members; Mrs. B. E. Spencer resigned and Mrs. George Duncan died. In 1955, as already noted, Miss Eunice Smith died. In 1956 Mrs. David Saylor and Mrs. Paul Akin became new members and Mrs. John McAdams resigned. In 1957 Mrs. William Middleton was asked to join the board and Mrs. Spencer Olin resigned. 1958 saw two new members, Mrs. Robert Damon and Mrs. George Hine; and Mrs. Paul Akin resigned.

The early years of the 1960's saw the Jennie D's, continuing to administer the endowment fund income as they felt the donors had intended. The regular book fund given to the library was increased to \$8,000 a year in 1960. In addition there were many appropriations for particular purposes: \$1,500 for non-fiction; \$500 for children's books in 1960; \$1,000 extra to replenish the children's reference book collection in 1961; \$1,000 for fiction replacement and \$500 for books on music in honor of Pauline Guy Levis in 1962, etc.

Community needs were also considered. When a volunteer tutoring program was initiated in Alton, The Jennie D's underwrote the purchase of reference books for the library which would assist in implementing this program. They also gave \$100 to the Madison County Historical Society for the purchase of historical books and \$250 to the White Cross Auxiliary for the purchase of books to be used by patients in Alton Memorial Hospital. In addition they continued to support the nursing school libraries.

In 1962 the Jennie D. Hayner Library Association felt there was a real need for someone to be collecting books, paintings and periodicals



pertaining to early Alton history and that this was a proper function for the Association. They also voted to have lectures and slides available on the collection. Nothing yet has been done in this area.

In 1966 the Hayner Public Library Board hired Mr. Jack Stankrauff as head librarian. He left in 1968. That year, while serving as interim librarian, Mrs. Paul Buxton suggested that the Eunice Smith Living Memorial Fund be used to establish a library school scholarship. Other communities were doing this. The recipient would be obligated to return to work at the Hayner Public Library for a period of one or two years. The motion was tabled.

In 1967, \$250 was given to the library for the purchase of books as a memorial to Mrs. John McAdams, long a member of the board, and in 1968, \$100 was given for the same purpose as a memorial to Mrs. Jane Bassett who had served as librarian for many years.

In 1968 a small building on 4th Street was rented as an annex for the purpose of storing books. The library had long since run out of shelf space for the current collection as well as for those books seldom checked out but considered necessary for a good library collection. Because of limited space the library collection was only 53,000 volumes, a size not considered adequate for a city the size of Alton.

The Hayner Public Library Board in 1967 hired a library consultant, Mr. Lester Stoeffel, to make a complete study of the library's needs and to draw up a plan for future growth. In the twenty year plan which he conceived, the major recommendation was a new library building near the center of population which he estimated would cost \$1,765,000 at that time. This would require a bond issue to be voted by the citizens of Alton.

To this end a Friends of the Library organization was formed to help educate the public to the need for a new library. The Jennie D. Hayner Library Association actively supported this organization. In addition, Mr. Stoeffel also recommended that the Jennie D's sign a quit claim deed to the library building and property. In their agreement with the city, the property and building reverted to them in the event that the city no longer used it as a library. Their past experience with Alton's reluctance to support its own library was the reason for their decision to sign the quit claim deed only when the bond issue was passed.

During the decade of the 60's two new members were added to the Association. They were Mrs. Dana Eastman and Mrs. Fred Renshaw. There was one resignation, Mrs. George Hine.

The year 1970 began auspiciously for the Hayner Public Library when Mr. Andrew Stimson became head librarian. At the insistence of the board the city permitted the salary of the head librarian to be raised to \$12,000. This made it possible to attract a quality librarian. At Mr. Stimson's suggestion in addition to their regular allocation for books, the

Jennie D's purchased a microfilm collection of old magazines for the library, a Reader Printer and two Readers. In earlier years they had helped purchase the first bookmobile so this was not a totally new departure from the traditional purchase of books. Since it had become customary for libraries to provide services other than book lending, the Jennie D's began to finance these services in varying degrees and also to make contributions for capital improvements.

1970 was also a year of much confusion. In January the Treasurer, Mrs. Ralph Jackson, was notified that the Internal Revenue Service was examining the Association's tax returns and would like to see its books. For the last several years the Jennie D's had been accumulating funds and placing them in time certificates for the purpose of doing something "important" for the proposed new library. However it was never stated in the minutes exactly what this purpose was and therefore it was in violation of IRS regulations for tax exempt corporations. Such corporations are not permitted to accumulate funds except for a stated specific purpose.

Mr. Charles Godfrey was retained as attorney for the Jennie D. Hayner Library Association to represent it in its dealing with the IRS. He has continued as the legal counsel for the Association since that time.

From his investigation of the corporation's records, the Internal Revenue Agent, Mr. O. E. Serrano, determined that the corporation no longer qualified for exemption from tax under the Internal Revenue Code, and he notified the corporation in March of 1970 that the exemption status granted to it on April 26, 1951, would be revoked for all years after May 1, 1967. The corporation was accordingly required to file income tax returns as a business corporation for its fiscal years beginning May 1, 1967 and May 1, 1968.

The internal revenue agent also indicated there may be grounds for denying the corporation its exempt status prior to May 1, 1967 and for assessment of a penalty against the corporation for its failure to pay income tax as a business corporation after that date. However, after further negotiations with the corporation, the agent agreed not to pursue either of these claims. Although the corporation was required to prepare income tax returns and to pay taxes and interest totaling \$4,996.15 for the years beginning May 1, 1967 and May 1, 1968, no penalties were assessed for the delinquent taxes and no claim was made for taxes for years prior to May 1, 1967.

After reviewing the applicable law with the corporation's lawyer, the internal revenue agent also acquiesced to the contention that as a business corporation the association would not be limited to the 5 per cent deduction for charitable contributions, so long as such contributions in excess of 5 per cent are for library purposes. He also indicated that as



in the case of other business corporations, the association could deduct for the years in question 85 per cent of the dividends received by it from other corporations.

Although the loss of its exempt status in 1970 retroactive to May 1, 1967, required the payment of substantial taxes for the two prior years, the unlimited deduction of library contributions and the 85 per cent dividend deductions have enabled the corporation to keep its income taxes to a minimum for all the years subsequent to 1969.

After being notified in 1970 of the revocation of its status as a tax exempt corporation, the association's board was faced with the necessity of deciding whether to reapply for exemption under the Internal Revenue Code or to remain taxable as a business corporation. The directors were advised by Mr. Godfrey that the 1969 Tax Reform Act had imposed major changes in the tax treatment of "tax exempt" corporations, and that under the then current interpretations of the law, the corporation may be subjected to higher income taxes and greater regulation of its activities as a "tax exempt corporation" than if it remained subject to tax as a business corporation. (He advised that the new laws applicable to "tax exempt" corporations impose a series of taxes on undistributed income and, under certain circumstances, upon a percentage of the total assets of the corporation.)

Mr. Godfrey cautioned the board that Internal Revenue Service rules and interpretations of the law as to the tax treatment of business corporations are subject to frequent change, and that the corporation may at some future date find it advantageous to reapply for status as a tax exempt corporation. The board determined in 1970 that for the present the corporation should not reapply for tax exempt status. The corporation has since that time continued to file tax returns and to be taxed, for federal tax purposes, as a business corporation.

The association was granted its corporate charter by the State of Illinois in 1891 under an act which was the predecessor of the present Not For Profit Corporation Act. The corporation is accordingly subject to regulation under state law as an Illinois Not For Profit Corporation, rather than as a business corporation. It files annual reports with the Secretary of State as an Illinois Not For Profit Corporation.

Also, because of the fact that a major portion of the corporation's assets were derived from contributions for "charitable purposes" the corporation files annual reports with the Attorney General's office as a charitable corporation, as required by the Illinois Charitable Trust Act.

In 1970 a building at 4th and Belle Streets directly across from the library became available and the Hayner Public Library Board contracted to rent this space for its adult section. This building provided

8,500 square feet of shelving. The Jennie D's were asked to help furnish it and \$8,500 was voted for this purpose.

The following year \$6,000 more was allocated for furnishing the adult section and \$5,000 for remodeling and purchasing equipment for the children's room, which was to comprise the whole first floor of the old Hayner Library building.

The Hayner Public Library Board received a grant in 1971 to demonstrate the feasibility of its becoming a library district encompassing all of the Alton Public School District. Among services this grant made possible was a catalogue mail service to the portions of the district outside of Alton. The Jennie D's felt this service should also be extended to the city of Alton and voted to underwrite it at a cost not to exceed \$15,000. The actual cost was, in fact, about \$2,800.

The Hayner Public Library attorney raised the question of the legality of the library building being used as a district library under the terms of the Jennie D. Hayner agreement with the city in 1953. It was the consensus of the Association that the intent was for the building to be used as a library. Whether it was used as an Alton city library or a district library encompassing the city of Alton and environs was of little importance. The attorney for the Jennie D's considered this decision legal.

In November, 1971, the Association voted an unrestricted gift to the Hayner Public Library Board of \$8,500.

In January, 1972, the election to create a library district in Alton was successful. However, in a late summer election, it was defeated by areas outside Alton City limits but within School District 11 for various reasons. One of the most important, perhaps, was that they would be taxed to support the library.

In 1972 the Jennie D's felt the need for guide lines in their allocation of funds. After consultation with the head librarian a ratio of 60 per cent for books and records and 40 per cent for renovation and development of projects was agreed upon.

The microfilming of the Alton Evening Telegraph catalogue for the years 1836-1933 and a microfilm storage cabinet to house it, a Graphflex 16mm sound and film projector and \$2000 for children's records were projects underwritten in 1972. Also purchased were \$6000 worth of books. Parking had become a problem at the library and in an attempt to alleviate this, the Association voted to underwrite one hour of validated parking for library patrons on a six month trial basis.

There was also discussion of the purchase of a rug for the children's area as a memorial to Mrs. Fred Norton, who had been children's librarian for many years. This project was postponed until the remodeled children's library was ready. The renovation of the children's



library had bogged down for lack of funds for that purpose in the Hayner Library budget. The estimate of the cost of renovating the original Hayner building was \$50,000; The Board had \$25,000 in its building budget. The Jennie D's felt there was an urgent need to get on with this work and voted \$12,500 in fiscal 1972-73 and committed an equal amount for fiscal 1973-74 for this purpose. This project was completed and the renovated children's library will be officially opened in the fall of 1974.

The last few years have been ones of great loss for the Jennie D's. Mrs. Paul Buxton became an emeritus member because of ill health. Mrs. H. P. McCuistion, a member since 1948, and Mrs. Eben Rodgers who, as Tilton Wead, became a member in 1928, died. It is impossible to say how much these three contributed to the library through the years and how very much they are missed. They had served during the difficult lean years and while the negotiations for becoming a city library were taking place. They can never be replaced.

Mrs. Rodgers' family had been interested in the library almost since its inception. Her grandfather, Mr. Timothy Dimmock, served as a Director of the Alton Library Association in 1859-1860. Mrs. Jacob Wead, her mother, was a director from 1896-1927. Mrs. Rodgers was one of the co-authors of the History of the Jennie D. Hayner Library Association, 1853-1933. Mrs. McCuistion's grandmother, Mrs. E. P. Wade, was a director of the Association from 1892-1909 and her mother, Mrs. John Duncan, served from 1925-1940.

Happily some families with long histories of support of the library are still represented on the board. Mrs. R. H. Levis, II, granddaughter-in-law of Mrs. R. H. Levis, Mrs. Henry McAdams, daughter-in-law of Mrs. John McAdams, and Mrs. Robert Anschuetz, whose aunt by marriage was Mrs. Eben Rodgers, are continuing their families tradition.

Capable new members were added to the Association in the 1970's they were Mrs. Daniel Platt in 1971, Mrs. Ben Allen, Mrs. Charles Godfrey and Mrs. Stephen Cousley in 1973. That year the resignation of Mrs. Robert Damon was accepted with regret.

The mandate given to the Jennie D's goes on and the members of the Jennie D. Hayner Library Association will continue to serve the Hayner Public Library District in the future as they have in the past with dedication and devotion.

September 1973.  
Alton, Illinois.

## PART II

Addendum: a history of the Library since it was given to the city. This section was written by a member of the Hayner Public Library District Board who is also a Jennie D.

After the Library became public in 1954 the new board of nine directors was appointed by the Mayor. It was the policy of the city administration to appoint a Jennie D. to the city board--this policy resulted in good rapport between the two groups and enabled the needs of the Library to be best interpreted to the Jennie D.'s.

In the early years much time was spent in organizing and trying to learn the art of running a library properly. A positive philosophy developed in the past decade as board members became increasingly active and sought to provide our community with the best possible service. It was not always smooth going. We were in frequent conflict with the City Council over budget (the Council restricted our income to slightly over fifty per cent of the rate voted by Alton taxpayers). There were also problems with the Civil Service Commission who had control of our employment practices. In 1964 we were involved in a conflict over censorship which brought wrath and praise--resulting unfortunately in the resignation of the Head Librarian and fortunately in our adopting Canons I of Intellectual Freedom and Tenets of Book Selection as advocated by the American Library Association.

In spite of these problems the conversion has been most successful. Services have been greatly increased. We now have Bookmobile service six days a week, large print books for those with poor vision, talking books for the blind, a catalogue-mail service, Xerox copying and electric typewriter for patrons' use, records that may be taken home or listened to at the Library, telephone reference and readers' advisory service, public service programs, movies, paperbacks, story hours, etc. Our growth is well illustrated by the following statistics:

	1954	1973
Budget	\$15,125	\$297,551
Full time employes	4	13
Volumes	26,614	92,626
Periodicals	74	219
Borrowers	3,600	11,279
Circulation	26,833	243,000
Hours open weekly	48	69
Volumes in microfilm	0	835
Motion Pictures	0	299



Recordings	0	2,940
Bookmobile	0	1

A seven county organization of libraries in this area (the Lewis and Clark System) was formed in the mid 60's. As a member library we profit by receiving books and assistance from System headquarters; individuals within the System benefit by their ability to borrow books from all System libraries; small communities are given bookmobile service.

In 1968 the Friends of the Library was formed. Its first and very able president was William H. Bryan. At that time our most pressing problem was the salary offered a Head Librarian. We were permitted by the City Council to offer \$7,200 to an individual with a M.A. in Library Science--a sum that was insufficient in a market where the demand was far greater than the supply. Our own efforts combined with the moral support of our friends enabled us to receive permission from the City Council to raise this salary to \$12,000 per year. As a result, after a period of two years without a Head Librarian the position was easily filled.

The Hayner Public Library building which is now more than seventy years old became hopelessly overcrowded. Because of our love for this old building (shared by many Altonians) and because of its excellent location in a busy downtown area we decided to remain where we were instead of attempting to build a new library. In order to achieve more space we rented a building across the street and created a "storefront" annex. This has proven to be very successful. We are now in the process of remodeling our original structure so that the main floor will be a children's library; offices and a meeting room will be downstairs. The annex will house our adult collection, reference books and ancillary services.

In 1971 the Board decided that the best way to serve the entire community of readers who use our facilities was to become a district library, thereby extending our taxable boundaries beyond the limits of Alton proper. This was a two step proposition: first it was necessary to have an election that would enable us to become a district library within Alton's city limits, and then for the District Library to hold a second election which would encompass areas outside Alton. The first election succeeded and the second was defeated. In spite of this defeat we made a large forward step because we are now a self governing district that, within legal limits, levies its own taxes and sets its own policies. In the future we can again attempt to enlarge our present boundaries. Our name is now Hayner Public Library District. Beginning in 1974 board members will no longer be appointed but will have to run in an election for six year terms.

During the past nineteen years the Library has benefitted tremendously from the interest and help of the Jennie D.'s. Besides the library building and all its contents this organization has donated nearly a quarter of a million dollars. Books and capital improvements accounted for the majority of these contributions. However, the funds donated by the Jennie D.'s were most valuable in that they allowed the Library Board to do that which is nearly impossible for a tax supported body--to experiment and try new ideas. It is difficult for a public board with a limited budget to justify using tax monies for experimentation and almost impossibly difficult to justify failure as the result of experimentation. The relatively small per cent of total funds contributed by the Jennie D.'s in this area has resulted in valuable and almost always successful innovations. Thereby the evolution has occurred that was necessary to create a viable library facility from little more than a reading room.



## PART III

DIRECTORS OF THE  
FOUR LIBRARY ASSOCIATIONS 1853-1973

✓Akin, Mrs. Paul	1956-1958
Akin, Mrs. William	1945-1952
Allen, Mrs. Benjamin	1973-
Anschuetz, Mrs. Robert	1952-
Ash, Mr. J. W.	1867-1868
Atwood, Mr. R. G.	1866-1868
Atwood, Mrs. R. W.	1871-1885
Barry, Mr. A. S.	1853-1856
Barry, Mrs. A. S.	1866-1873
Billings, Mrs. H. W.	1869-1871
Bishop, Miss Alice	1869-1869
Blair, Mr. J. L.	1853-1854
Bowman, Mrs. E. M.	1909-1925
Bowman, Mrs. H. B.	1873-1888
Breath, Mr. Abraham	1856-1857
Buckmaster, Mr. John	1857-1858
Burnett, Mr. Harvey	1853-1854
Buxton, Mrs. Paul	1936-
Caldwell, Mr. L. P.	1858-1860
Calvin, Mr. J. W.	1855-1856
Cousley, Mrs. Stephen	1973-
Crandall, Mr. C. M.	1857-1858
Crandall, Mrs. C. M.	1869-1887
Damon, Mrs. Robert	1958-1973
Davis, Mr. Levi	1866-1867
Dimmock, Mr. Thomas	1859-1860
Dolbee, Miss Harriet	1925-1927
Drury, Mrs. E. L.	1901-1925
Duncan, Mrs. Albert	1936-1941
Duncan, Mrs. George	1934-1954
Duncan, Mrs. John	1925-1940
Eastman, Mrs. Dana	1967-
Eaton, Mrs. Henry	1871-1879
Everts, Mrs. W. T.	1879-1880
Ferguson, Miss Bertha	1925-1940
Fitch, Mr. John	1859-1860, 1866
Godfrey, Mrs. Charles	1973-

Guernsey, Miss Fanny	1866-1867
Haley, Mr. W. D.	1854-1855
Hanson, Mrs. A. H.	1869-1873
Haskell, Mrs. A. S.	1873-1873
Haskell, Mrs. W. A.	1888-1932
Hawley, Mrs. A. T.	1875-1901
Hawley, Mr. G. W.	1867-1868
Hayner, Mrs. John (Jennie D.)	1877-1888
Hayner, Mrs. John	1896-1917
Hewitt, Mrs. H. H.	1910-1935
Hibbard, Mr. J. W.	1856-1866
Hibbard, Mrs. J. W.	1866-1873
Hine, Mrs. George C.	1858-1867
Hoagland, Mrs. K. K.	1954-
Hollister, Mr. E.	1867-1869
Hollister, Mrs. E.	1866-1875
Holton, Mr. W. A.	1856-1857
Jackson, Mrs. Ralph	1954-
Johnson, Mr. Morton	1853-1854
Kendall, Mrs. L. O.	1870-1872
Kent, Mr. L.	1860-1861
✓Laird, Mrs. J. P.	1873-1909
Levis, Mrs. R. H.	1934-1952
Levis, Mrs. R. H., II	1948-
✓McAdams, Mrs. Henry	1948-
✓McAdams, Mrs. John	1925-1956
McCuiston, Mrs. H. P.	1948-1972
McGill, Mrs. William	1942-1947
McGregory, Mr. S. E.	1858-1859
McMasters, Mr. S. Y.	1854-1855
McNulty, Mr. J.	1859-1859
McPike, Mr. H. G.	1855-1856
Marsh, Miss Mary	1857-1857
Martin, Mrs. W. W.	1873-1888
Matthews, Mrs. H. S.	1888-1925
Metcalf, Mr. L. S.	1853-1854
Middleton, Mrs. William	1957-
Miller, Mr. W. T.	1853-1854, 1859
Miller, Mrs. W. T.	1869-1875
Mitchell, Mrs. J. J.	1866-1874
Munger, Mr. C. A.	1868-1869
Murray, Mr. C. A.	1866-1867
Nichols, Mrs. F. K.	1873-1878



Olcott, Mr. A. ....	1860-1861
Olin, Mrs. F. W. ....	1934-1954
Olin, Mrs. Spencer ....	1947-1957
Paddock, Mr. Gaius ....	1858-1859
Pearson, Mr. J. M. ....	1855-1858, 1866
Perley, Mrs. R. G. ....	1869-1885
Perrin, Mr. William ....	1867-1868
Pickard, Mr. Philander ....	1857-1860
Pierce, Mrs. W. B. ....	1880-1906
Platt, Mrs. Daniel ....	1971-
Priest, Mrs. H. C. ....	1885-1896
Quigley, Mr. W. C. ....	1857-1858
Randall, Mrs. John ....	1888-1906
Randall, Mr. P. W. ....	1853-1854
Renshaw, Mrs. Fred ....	1967-
Robbins, Mr. S. W. ....	1854-1855
✓ Root, Mrs. A. K. ....	1874-1901
Saylor, Mrs. David ....	1956-1958
Scarritt, Mr. Henry ....	1866-1867
Scarritt, Mr. Isaac ....	1853-1856
✓ Schweppe, Mrs. J. W. ....	1869-1877
Smith, Miss Eunice ....	1909-1955
Smith, Mr. W. Eliot ....	1866-1868
Smith, Mrs. W. Eliot ....	1901-1925
Smith, Mr. Robert ....	1866-1867
Smith, Mr. Utten ....	1857-1860
Souther, Mr. Louis ....	1857-1859
✓ Sparks, Mrs. H. B. ....	1913-1924
✓ Sparks, Mrs. R. D. ....	1917-1936
Spencer, Mrs. B. E. ....	1952-1954
Stanford, Mrs. Homer ....	1887-1925
Staunton, Mr. J. M. ....	1858-1859
Stewart, Mr. J. T. ....	1857-1858, 1860
Stewart, Mr. S. B. W. ....	1860-1861
Stowell, Mrs. Mary ....	1925-1926
Stowell, Mrs. Sophia ....	1901-1912
Tansey, Mr. R. P. ....	1866-1867
Taylor, Mrs. Frank ....	1906-1910
Topping, Mr. M. H. ....	1866-1869
Topping, Mrs. M. H. ....	1872-1892
Trumbull, Mr. Charles ....	1855-1857
Turner, Mr. W. H. ....	1853-1854
Underhill, Mr. R. T. ....	1857-1858

Wade, Mrs. E. P. ....	1892-1909
Wade, Mrs. Samuel ....	1925-1945
Watson, Mrs. Minor ....	1942-1945
Wead, Mrs. Jacob ....	1896-1927
Wead, Miss Tilton (Mrs. Eben Rodgers) ....	1928-1973
✓ Whipple, Mrs. P. B. ....	1869-1871
Wilkinson, Mrs. George ....	1934-1945
Williams, Mrs. N. D. ....	1871-1896
Wolford, Mr. A. G. ....	1853-1855, 1866, 1868
Woods, Mr. John ....	1854-1855
Wright, Mr. C. L. ....	1859-1860
Wright, Mrs. C. L. ....	1877-1901



## PART IV

## THE ENDOWMENT FUND

1934	Mrs. W. A. Haskell estate	\$50,000
1935	Miss Helen Haskell (Memorial for Dr. W. A. Haskell and John Abraham Haskell to buy books about doctors) interest only to be spent	\$ 3,000
1942	Miss Eunice Smith (Alice E. Smith Memorial Fund) Interest only to be used to buy children's books	\$10,000
1955-1958	The Jennie D. Hayner Library Association and Mrs. Pascal C. Hatch (The Eunice C. Smith Living Memorial Fund) The income from which is to provide a cultural program for the citizens of Alton	\$10,000

## PART V

## HEAD LIBRARIANS

1925-1951	Mrs. Jane Bassett
1951-1954	Mrs. Beatrice Rippley, Miss Marion Vogelpohl, Mrs. Charlene Redd
1954-1957	Mr. Robert Hamilton
1957-1958	Mr. Henry J. Blasick
1959-1962	Mr. George E. Earley
1963-1965	Mr. David E. Holt
1966-1968	Mr. Jack Stankrauff
1970-1973	Mr. Andrew Stimson
1973-	Mrs. Mary Dean Huntley





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